

**Second Edition: The Bestseller is
Completely Revised and Expanded**



**BASIC
MUSIC THEORY**

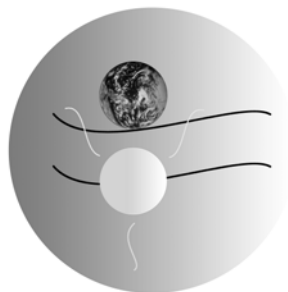
**HOW TO READ, WRITE, AND
UNDERSTAND WRITTEN MUSIC**

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Author of Sound the Trumpet: How to Blow Your Own Horn

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FREE TEACHING PACKET FOR TEACHERS!

Get The Most out of *Basic Music Theory*

It's okay, we can admit it. Everyone would rather play music than study music theory, teachers and students alike. No big surprise there, right? Yet we all know the important role theory plays in communicating a musical idea. Despite this knowledge, music theory isn't taught for several reasons: no good methods students enjoy, no time, and no money to buy books, are only a few reasons.

So what's the answer? Theory in small, enjoyable doses from a program designed as a cost- and time-effective teaching tool. This book.

Though it works well for individuals, *Basic Music Theory* was written specifically for use in the classroom. Its clear explanations, short chapters, and reviews make it a low-maintenance option for teachers with limited time (and we all have limited time, right?).

The Quiz- Pack

The Quiz-Pack is an addition which complements *Basic Music Theory*. In it are Chapter and Part quizzes, student tracking forms, book tracking forms, and additional information like how to schedule time for theory, how to pay for books, and fun yet productive rehearsal suggestions.

Combined with the Quiz-Pack, *Basic Music Theory* is the best method for teaching music theory to be found anywhere, and it works with classes of all sizes.

Quizzes

Though I'm aware that multiple-choice tests are a poor way to determine comprehension, they are very efficient. With our limited time, and class sizes that exist only in other teachers' nightmares, efficiency is a must.

All quizzes are in a multiple choice format with a quick-correct key to make correcting an easy task for an aide.

Each Chapter and Part Quiz has 4 different versions to curb cheating. These can be rotated in a 4-year period, or month-to-month, or any way you think most effective.

Student Tracking Form

Also included in the Quiz-Pack is a Student Information Form which includes class name, period/time, semester/year, student name, year, and condition of their book (new, good, used). There are spaces for over 100 students.

The form is shaded so students (and you) can find their information quickly and easily. Each chapter has one column to indicate date begun and date passed. Grades can be entered here also if you choose to use a grading system. More about assessment in the *Extra* Section below.

Student Fee Forms

A set of books is a significant investment of your program's resources, and just as a student is charged for damage to a borrowed instrument, so they are also responsible for damaged books.

The Student Fee Form has dollar values for books in conditions from new to damaged and is also shaded for convenient location of information. There are several more columns for other fees the student may owe, including a column for funds the student may have through fund raising.

Extras

All sections of the Quiz-Pack are clearly explained with suggestions to make their use easy and productive. Included in the Quiz-Pack are suggestions for scheduling time for theory and systems of grading. Also included are some special rehearsal techniques which students and directors alike enjoy and benefit from.

To Get It

The Quiz-Pack is free. You can make as many copies of the quizzes and forms as you need, without limit. To receive a Quiz-Pack, go to <http://www.sol-ut.com>, and follow the links. Download what you need and you're on your way.

If you'd like the Quiz-Pack information on a CD, please send \$5 to the address below.

Questions, Ink
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Musical Terms

A

a, á (It): At, by, for, with.

A 440: The note A above middle C, with frequency of 440 vibrations per second. The note which orchestras and music ensembles universally tune with.

a cappella (It): Without accompaniment.

accelerando: Becoming faster.

accent (Eng): To emphasize or stress a note, indicated by the symbol ">". The three main kinds of accents are agogic, dynamic, and tonic.

accidental: Sharps, flats or natural signs; used to raise, lower or return a note to its normal pitch.

accompaniment: Secondary musical material, supports more important material.

acoustic: An instrument that produces sound without the use of electronic amplification.

acoustics 1: The science of sound. 2: The physical properties of an instrument or room as related to sound.

adagietto (It): A little faster than adagio.

adagio (It): "At ease." A slow tempo between *largo* and *andante*.

à demi-voix (Fr): With half the voice, whispered.

à deux, a due (Fr, It): For two instruments or voices (to be played or sung in unison).

ad libitum, ad lib. (Lat.): "At will." the performer improvises freely and may vary the tempo.

Aeolian: A medieval mode whose half- and whole-step pattern is that of playing A to A on the white keys of the piano (same as the natural minor scale).

affrettando (It): Hurrying.

agitato (It): Agitated, excited, hurried, restless.

agogic accent: Emphasis is given to a note by making it longer than normal.

air: A song or melody.

al, all', alla, alle (It) 1: "To the." 2: In the style of (e.g., *alla valse*, "in a waltz style").

al coda (It): "To the coda."

al Fine (It): To the end.

alla breve (It): A duple time signature, usually 2/2.

allargando (It): Growing broader and slower.

allegretto (It): A cheerful fast tempo, a little slower than *allegro*.

allegro (It): "cheerful." A lively, fast tempo: *allegro assai*, very fast; *allegro di bravura*, fast, bright and spirited; *allegro moderato*, moderately fast.

alphorn: A wooden horn up to 10 feet long, curved slightly at the end with an upturned bell; from Switzerland.

al segno (It): Return to the sign (see *dal segno*).

alt (It): "High." the notes from G to F that fall above the fifth line of the *treble clef*.

alteration: The raising or lowering of a note with an *accidental*.

altered chord: A chord in which a note(s) has been raised or lowered chromatically.

altissimo (It): "Most high." The highest notes; the octave above the *alt*.

alto (It): "High." the highest male singing voice and lowest female singing voice.

alto clef: The C clef on the third line of the staff. Used by the viola.

alto flute: See *flute*.

alto saxophone: See *saxophone*.

amabile (It): Amiable, gentle.

anacrusis (Gr.): *Pickup* or upbeat or preparatory beat.

andante (It): "Going." A moderate tempo between *allegretto* and *adagio*.

andantino (It): Originally a tempo a little slower than *andante*, but now indicates a tempo a bit faster than *andante*.

animato, animoso (It): Animated, energetic or spirited.

anticipation: Nonharmonic note or notes played before the chord in which it belongs.

antiphonal: Alternating singing or playing by separate groups of performers; originally separated also by distance.

appassionato (It): Passionately.

appoggiatura (It): An accented nonharmonic note that resolves stepwise to a harmonic note.

arco (It): "Bowed." For string instruments, indicates to use the bow.

archet, archetto (Fr): For string instruments, the bow; to bow.

arco (It): "Bow". For string instruments, indicates to use the bow.

arpeggio (It): The notes of a chord played in succession; a broken chord.

arraché (Fr): Strong pizzicato.

arrangement: A different version of a composition.

arsis (Gr.): The upbeat.

articulation: The degree to which notes are separated or connected, such as *staccato* or *legato*.

assai (It): Very, extremely.

a tempo (It): Return to the original tempo.

atonal: Music lacking a tonal or key center.

attacca (It): Go on, proceed immediately to next section. *Segue*.

attack: The beginning of a note or phrase.

a 2: For 2 instruments or voices.

augmentation: A lengthening of the duration of notes in a *theme*.

augmented: Raised, enlarged.

augmented chord: A triad composed of a root, major third, and augmented fifth.

augmented sixth chord: A chord with the interval of an augmented sixth resolving upward to an octave.

augmented interval: A major or perfect interval raised by a *half step*.

authentic cadence: A cadence with a progression from the dominant (V) chord to the tonic (I) chord.

B

back beat: Used with drums, emphasis on beats 2 and 4.

balance: the harmonious adjustment of volume and sound quality between instruments and/or voices.

bar: A *measure*; the space between two bar lines. Also, the *bar line* itself.

baritone: A male singing voice higher than bass but lower than tenor.

baritone horn: A brass instrument similar to the *euphonium*, but with 3 valves and smaller bore.

baritone saxophone: see *saxophone*.

bar line: Vertical line through a staff to separate measures or bars.

barre (Fr): Used for guitars; playing several strings with a single finger across the fretboard.

bass 1: The lowest male singing voice. 2 The lowest part in music. 3 Electric bass, bass viol, upright bass.

bassa (It): Low.

bass clef: The clef which names the 4th line of the staff as *F*.

basso continuo (It): Used in the baroque era; an accompaniment *usu.* improvised with numbers indicating the harmony.

basoon: A double-reed instrument with low pitch.

baton: Conductor's wand.

beam: A horizontal line used in place of flags to connect short notes.

beat 1: A rhythmic unit of time. 2: To mark time.

beats: pulses caused by sound waves of slightly different frequency.

bebop: A form of jazz invented by Dizzy Gillespie and Charlie Parker; uses improvisation, complex rhythms and harmonies.

bend: A change in pitch, *usu.* a half or whole step. Used with voice, guitar, harmonica and other instruments.

big band: Jazz band playing dance music. Popular in '30's and '40's, experienced a renaissance in late '90's.

bitonal: A composition using two keys at the same time.

bluegrass: Folk music, *usu.* fast tempo with banjo, fiddle, bass, mandolin, and other instruments.

blue notes: Notes played/sung below intended pitch (*usu* 3rd, 7th, 5th). Used in blues music.

blues: the basis of jazz. Originated from African vocal music; minor 3rd and 7th of scale. Form is 12 bars long.

Boehm system: System of keys used with woodwind instruments perfected by Theobald Boehm.

bones 1: Percussion instrument of African origin, a pair of sticks/bones held between the fingers and clicked in rhythm. 2: Slang for trombones.

bore: The diameter and shape of the tube of a wind instrument.

bow: The device drawn across the strings of string instruments like violin, cello, etc. A stick ~3 ft. long with horsehair stretched between the ends.

brace: A curved line which connects the staves for instruments which use more than one staff.

bracket: A straight line with curved ends which connects staves for different instruments playing simultaneously.

break **1**: The point at which a voice shifts from the chest register to the head (falsetto) register. **2**: The change in woodwind instruments (esp. clarinet) from the lower register to the higher register.

breve: Originally a short note, has come to mean a long note equalling two whole notes.

bridge **1**: A transitional section in a piece of music. **2**: A piece of wood that supports the strings and holds them away from the body of the instrument.

brillante (It): Brilliant.

brio (It): Vigor, spirit. *Con brio*.

broken chord: Notes of a chord played in succession rather than simultaneously.

brushes: Thin wire brushes used on percussion instruments, esp. in jazz.

bull roarer: An instrument originating in aboriginal Australia consisting of a thin piece of bone or wood of special shape tied to rope and whirled vigorously about one's head. Makes a very loud roaring sound.

BWV (abbr.): "Bach-Werke Verzeichnis." A method of cataloguing Bach's work.

C

cabasa (Sp): Percussion instrument. A gourd covered with beads; a cylinder of metal covered with beads of metal.

cacophony: Dissonant sound. Usu. loud and unpleasant.

cadence: The ending of a piece or section, usu. applied to chord progression (e.g. *deceptive cadence*, *perfect cadence*, etc.).

cadenza: An unaccompanied solo passage usually near the end of a piece. Either ad lib or written by composer.

caesura: A sudden pause or break, shown by the symbol //.

calma, calmando (It): Calming, quiet, tranquil.

calypso: A type of rhythm or song originating in Trinidad.

cancel: Another name for the natural sign used to remove the affect of an accidental.

canción (Sp): Song.

cantabile (It): In a singing style.

capo **1**: The head, beginning, or top. **2**: A device placed across the strings of an instrument to raise the pitch.

capriccio: A piece played in a free, playful style.

castrato (It): An adult male singer with a soprano or alto voice.

catgut: Formerly used as material for string instruments. Actually sheep or goat intestines.

C clef: A moveable clef indicating middle C.

celere (It): Quick, rapid.

chalumeau (Fr): The low register of a clarinet.

changes: Slang for chord changes.

chanson (Fr): Song.

chart: The score or parts of an instrumental ensemble, usu. pop or jazz.

chest voice: the low register of the voice.

choir: A group of singers of sacred music.

choke cymbal: **1**: The hi-hat cymbals on the drum set. **2**: Verb meaning to silence a cymbal quickly.

chops: Slang for a player's ability.

chord: Three or more tones sounding simultaneously.

chorus: **1**: The *refrain* of a song. **2**: A group of singers of secular music.

chromatic: Moving by half steps.

chromaticism: Melodic or harmonic use of tones other than those of the diatonic scale.

chromatic scale: A scale made up of 12 half steps in succession.

circle of fifths: The succession of keys progressing by fifths.

circular breathing: A technique used by wind players in which air is expelled from the mouth while inhaling through the nose.

clam: Slang for a wrong note.


classical **1**: Music of a "serious" (non-pop) nature. **2**: The time period from the late 1700's to the early 1800's.

claves: Percussion instrument from Cuba; round hardwood sticks hit against each other.

clef: A symbol at the beginning of a piece of music which shows the names of the lines and spaces of the staff.

close harmony: Harmony with the chord tones as close together as possible.

cluster: group of notes with the interval of a second.

coda (It): Closing section of a piece. In written music a separate section to after repeating a previous section (e.g. D.C. al Coda; D.S. al Coda). Indicated by the symbol .

col legno (It): Playing with the wood part of the bow.

combo (abbr.): Short for combination. A small group of instrumentalists, used in jazz.

comma: Breath mark (').

common chord: Triad. Chord with root, third and fifth.

common time: Four beats to a measure, quarter note gets one beat. 4/4.

common tone: A note that remains the same between two chords.

còmodo (It): Comfortable.

complete cadence: I-IV-V-I.

compound interval: An interval larger than an octave (9th, 11th, 13th).

compound meter: A time signature in which the basic beat is divisible by 3 (6/8, 9/8, etc.).

con (It): With.

con anima (It): With spirit.

con brio: With animation.

concertmaster: First-chair violinist in an orchestra.

concerto: a composition for soloist and orchestra.

concert pitch **1**: The pitch for C instruments (e.g. flute, oboe, trombone, violin, etc.). **2**: International tuning pitch of A440 or A442.

con fuoco (It): With fire.

con gusto (It): With gusto.

consonance: Sounds pleasing to the ear.

con sordini (It): With mutes.

con sordino (It): With mute.

contra (It): In the octave below normal (e.g. contra bassoon).

contralto: The lowest female voice, a.k.a. *alto*.

contrary motion: Term used in *counterpoint* for two voices moving in opposite directions.

cor (Fr): Horn.

corona: *Fermata*.

count: The pulse or beat.

counterpoint: The combination of two or more melodic lines occurring simultaneously.

countertenor: The highest male singing voice.

cover: Slang for the performance of a song written by someone other than the performer.

cowbell: A metal bell struck with a drumstick.

crescendo: Gradually becoming louder.

cross rhythm: Different rhythms played at the same time.

crotchet: British name for quarter note.

cue **1**: A gesture made by a conductor for a performer to make an entrance. **2**: Small notes indicating another instrument's part.

cut time: 2/2 time signature.

cymbals: Percussion instruments of circular brass plates. May be struck together (crash cymbals), with a mallet (suspended cymbal), or mechanically (hi-hat).


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

da capo, D.C. (It): Direction in a piece of music to return to the beginning.

da capo al coda, D.C. al Coda (It): Direction to return to the beginning, play to the Coda sign, then to skip to the Coda and finish the piece.

da capo al fine, D.C. al Fine (It): Direction to return to the beginning of a piece and play to the "Fine" sign.

dal (It): "From the," or "by the."

dal segno, D.S. (It): Direction to return to the point marked by the sign .

dal segno al coda, D.S. al Coda (It): Direction to return to the sign ; play to the coda sign , then skip to the coda.

dal segno al fine: Direction to return to the D.S. sign and play to the "Fine" sign.

dB (abbr.): Decibel. Measurement of loudness.

decrescendo: Gradually becoming softer.

degree: a note of a scale.

delicato (It): Delicately.

demi-quaver: British term for sixteenth note.

demisemi-quaver: British term for thirty-second note.

détaché (Fr): Short, detached bowing strokes.

di (It): Of, with.

diatonic: The tones of any major or minor scale.

didgeridoo: Australian aboriginal horn made of wood hollowed by termites, played with the lips and breath.

diminished: Lowered.

diminished interval: A minor or perfect interval lowered a half step.

diminished seventh chord: A chord with root, minor third, diminished fifth, and diminished seventh.

diminished triad: A triad with root, minor third, and diminished fifth.

diminuendo (It): Growing gradually softer.

diminution: Shortening the length of notes in a *theme*.

discord: Dissonant sounds or sounds unpleasant to the ear.

disjunct: Moving by intervals larger than a second.

dissonance: Sounds unpleasant to the ear.

divisi, div. (It): Indication for separate parts written on one staff. To be played by two or more performers.

do: The first note (*tonic*) of a diatonic scale.

dodecaphonic: Twelve-tone music.

doit: A jazz technique used on brass instruments where a note is bent upwards.

dominant: Fifth degree of a major or minor scale.

doppio (It): Double.

Dorian: A medieval mode with the half-whole-step pattern from D to D on the white keys of the piano.

dot 1: Written above or below a note indicates *staccato*. 2: Written after a note, the dot increases the length by half its original value.

double bar: Two bar lines on a staff that show the end of a section or piece.

double bass: Lowest member of the violin family, tuned E, A, D, G.

double concerto: A concerto for two instruments.

double dot: Increases a note's length by 3/4 of its original value.

double flat: Written before a note, it lowers the note a whole step.

double horn: A French horn comprised of two different horns (one in F, one in Bb), with valve to switch between the two. Better intonation and greater range.

double reed: Two thin pieces of cane bound together at one end which vibrate to produce sound for *oboe*, *English horn*, and *bassoon*.

double sharp: Written before a note, it raises the pitch of the note a whole step.

double stop: For violin family instruments, playing two notes at once.

double time: Twice as fast.

double tonguing: On brass and flute instruments, a method of rapidly articulating notes, alternating with the front and back of the tongue (ta-ka-ta-ka).

downbeat: the first beat of a measure given with downward stroke by the conductor.

drone: A note of the same pitch which continues for a long time. Used by instruments like bagpipes, 5-string banjo and hurdy-gurdy.

drum kit, drum set: A set of drums several drums, usu. consisting of: snare drum, bass drum, hi-hat, ride cymbal, crash cymbal, hi- middle- and low tom toms.

duet or duo: Musical composition for two performers.

duple meter: A time signature with two beats to a measure (e.g. 2/4 or fast 6/8).

duration: The length of a note or rest.

dynamic accent: Emphasis given a note by louder articulation than normal.

dynamic markings: Symbols which indicate different levels of loudness or softness (e.g. *p*, *mp*, *mf*, *f*).

dynamics 1: The level of loudness or softness. 2: The symbols for dynamics.

E

8va: Ottava altus. One octave higher.

8vb: Ottava bassus. One octave lower.

ear training: A technique of learning to hear music and write it down.

eighth: An octave.

eighth note, eighth rest: A note/rest with one eighth the length of a whole note, and half the length of a quarter note. Half of a beat in 4/4 time.

eleventh: Diatonic interval from the first to the eleventh note. Same letter name as the 4th.

embellishment: An *ornament* added to music.

embouchure: The position and use of lips, tongue, and teeth when playing a wind instrument.

English horn: An alto *oboe* with a pitch a fifth lower. Same conical shape but with a bulbous bell.

enharmonic: Two notes of the same pitch with different names (e.g. Ab and G#).

ensemble: A group of performers.

entr'acte (Fr): A piece played between acts of an opera, ballet, or musical.

equal temperament: A tuning system which divides the octave into equal intervals.

espressivo (It): Expressive, with emotion.

estinto (It): Very soft, almost inaudible.

-etto (It): A suffix meaning "little."

étude: A piece of music studied to improve technique.

euphonium: A brass instrument similar to the *baritone horn* but with a larger bore.

eurhythmics: A system which teaches rhythm by using body movement.

expression marks: Directions or symbols for musical expression and interpretation, like *dynamics*, *tempo*, *articulation*, and *mood*.

F

f (abbr.): Forte. Loud dynamic.

fa: 4th Degree of a *diatonic scale*.

fake: Slang for improvisation. "If you can't make it, fake it."

fake book: A song book containing chord changes, lyrics, and melodies for many songs.


false cadence: see *deceptive cadence*.

false alto (It): A high voice used for notes above the normal vocal range.

fanfare: A short piece of music for brass to attract attention.

F clef: The bass clef centered on the 4th line of the staff and naming that 4th line as F below middle C.

feminine cadence: A *cadence* ending on a weak beat.

fermata (It): A symbol indicating a hold or pause. 

festoso (It): Happy or merry.

ff (abbr.): *Fortissimo*.

fff (abbr.): *Fortississimo*.

f-hole: On violin family instruments it's the f-shaped sound holes on top of the instrument. Also on some guitars.

fiddle: A violin used for folk- or bluegrass music; it usu. has a flatter *bridge*, uses metal strings and a *tuner* on each string.

fiero (It): Bold.

fife: A high, keyless flute.

fifth: The interval of 5 diatonic scale degrees.

fine: The end.

fretboard: The surface of the neck on string instruments where the fingers press down on the strings.

fixed do: A singing system in which the note C is always do. Compare to *moveable do*.

flag: A curved line extending from the right side of the stem of a note. Used on eighth notes and smaller notes.

flam: A drum rudiment. Small grace note before the main note.

flamenco: A Spanish dance/song usu. played on guitar and including rhythmic clapping and stomping of the dancer.

flat 1: The symbol used to lower a note by one half step. 2: To be below normal pitch.

flip: A jazz technique, usu performed on brass instruments. Note is raised in pitch and then glissed down to the next note.

flugelhorn: A brass instrument in the trumpet family with a wider bell than trumpet, a conical bore, and more mellow tone.

flute: A woodwind instrument of wood or metal in the shape of a cylinder closed at one end. Sound is produced by blowing across a hole near the closed end (see also: *alto flute*, *bass flute*).

flutter tonguing: A wind instrument technique of very rapid tonguing, produced by rolling the tongue saying trrrrrrr.

form: The structure or organization of a piece of music.

forte (It): Loud.

fortissimo (It): Very loud.

fortississimo (It): Very very loud. Officially the loudest dynamic marking.

forzando, forzato (It): Forced. Strongly accented.

fourth: An interval of 4 diatonic degrees.

fourth chord: A chord with intervals of a fourth.

French horn: A brass instrument with a conical bore, valves, highly flared bell, and many coils of tubing.

French sixth: A type of *augmented sixth chord* with a major third, augmented fourth, and augmented sixth above the root.

fret 1: On many string instruments, a strip usu of metal placed across the fretboard to give a specific note when fretted. 2: The act of pressing the fingers down on the fretboard.

fretboard: The *fretboard* of instruments with frets.

frog: The end of the *bow* which is held in the hand.

fugue: A piece in which two or more parts are built upon a recurring theme.

full score: An instrumental score in which appear all the parts for the instruments.

fundamental: The lowest note in a *harmonic series*.

funk: A rhythmic style with much syncopation.

furioso (It): Furiously, wildly.

fusion: A combination of rock and jazz beginning in the early '70s.

fz (abbr.): *Forzando*, *sforzando*.

G

gapped scale: A scale made from a complete scale by leaving out some notes. The pentatonic scale is a gapped scale.

G clef: The treble clef, centered on the second line of the staff, giving that line the pitch G above middle C.

German flute: The standard flute.

German sixth: A type of *augmented sixth chord* with a major third, perfect fifth, and augmented sixth above the root.

Gestopft (Ger.): Muting a horn with the hand.

ghost bend: A guitar technique in which a note is pre-bent before sounding the string.

ghost note: A jazz technique in which the note indicated by parentheses is barely played.

gig: A musician's slang for a job.

giocoso (It): Humorous.

glass harmonica: An instrument invented in the 1700s made of various sizes of glass bowls played by rubbing around the rim with a wet finger.

glee: Unaccompanied vocal music for three or four parts.

glee club: A group that sings glees.

glide: A smooth change in pitch from one note to another.

glissando: A fast scale produced by sliding the hand finger rapidly from one note to another.

gong: A percussion instrument from Asia made up of a heavy circular metal plate and struck with a soft mallet.

G.P. (abbr.): Grand Pause. A pause in a piece of music.

grace note: An ornamental note played quickly before the main note.

grandioso (It): Grand, grandiose.

grand pause: A pause for the entire group of musicians.

grand staff: Both the treble and bass clef staves. Piano music is written on a grand staff.

grave (It): Slow. Solemn.

grazia, grazioso (It): Grace, graceful.

groove: Slang for when music is perfectly in synch.

grosso (It): Great, large.

growl: A rough sound produced by growling in the back of the throat. Often used in jazz.

gruppetto (It): An ornamental group of notes like a *turn*, *shake*, or *trill*.

gusto (It): Enjoyment, gusto.

H

H 1: German for B natural. 2: Letter used with a number for the works of Haydn, after the cataloguer "Hoboken."

half cadence: see *imperfect cadence*.

half note, half rest: A note/rest equal to half the length of a whole note/rest or two quarter notes/rests. Two beats in 4/4 time.

half step: The smallest *interval* in Western music. One twelfth of an *octave*.

harmonic minor: A *natural minor* scale with a half step between the 7th and 8th degrees of the scale.

harmonic progression: Movement from one chord to another.

harmonics 1: The pure individual tones which make up a complex tone. 2: On string instruments, a tone produced by touching the strings at the harmonic nodes.

harmonic series: A series of notes produced above a *fundamental* and having a specific order.

head voice: The upper *register* of the voice.

heidimisemiquaver: British name for a sixty-fourth note.

hexachord: A six-note scale.

hi-hat cymbals: Used in the drum kit; a pair of cymbals facing each other and struck together with a mechanical device operated by the foot.

hold: A *fermata* or pause.

horn 1: The brass instrument with conical tube wound round itself. Another name for French horn. 2: Musician's slang for his or her instrument.

Hungarian minor scale: A harmonic minor scale with a raised 4th.

hyper-: Prefix meaning above or over.

hypo-: Prefix meaning below.

I

ictus (Lat.): Stress, or an accent.

imitation: The restatement of a musical idea in another part. Used in counterpoint.

improvisation: Music composed on the spot.

incomplete cadence: A cadence in which a note other than the *key note* is in the top voice of the I chord.

interlude: A short piece used to bridge the acts of a play.

interrupted cadence: A cadence in which the dominant chord (V) moves to a chord other than the tonic (I).

interval: The distance between two notes.

Intonation: The accuracy of pitch.

inversion, chordal: A chord with a bass tone other than its root.

inversion, melodic: The change of an ascending interval to its corresponding descending interval.

Ionian: A medieval mode whose whole and half steps correspond to the major scale. C to C on the white keys of the piano.

isteso (It): The same. *l'istesso tempo*.

Italian sixth: A type of *augmented sixth chord* containing a major third and an augmented sixth above the bass.

J-K-L

jam: Slang for a gathering of musicians to play or improvise.

jazz: A style of music with African-American roots and using *blue notes*, *improvisation*, and strong rhythms.

jazz combo: A small jazz group usu consisting of piano, drums, bass, and a solo instrument.

jazz ensemble: A group of musicians (usu rhythm section, brass, and woodwinds) who play various styles of *jazz*.

K: Used to catalogue Mozart's works; represents Köchel. (e.g. K 201)

kettledrum: A percussion instrument with a tunable head. Also called *timpani*.

key 1: The tonal center of a composition, based on the tonic of the scale. 2: A lever pressed by the finger on an instrument (e.g. piano, flute).

keynote: The first note of the scale of a *key*. Also called the *tonic*.

key signature - accidentals at the left side of the staff between the clef and the time signature which indicate what key the piece is in.

kick: In jazz, a rhythmic accent or cue applied by the rhythm section.

1a: The sixth degree of a diatonic scale.

lacrimoso (It): Tearful, mournful.

largamente (It): Broadly.

largando (It): Slowing down.

largetto (It): A little faster than *largo*.

Largo (It): Broad. A very slow tempo.

leading note/tone: The seventh degree of a diatonic scale; leads the ear to the *tonic* note.

lead sheet: Melody line, lyrics and chord for a song. A *fake book* is made up of lead sheets.

leap: A skip of more than a 2nd.

ledger line, leger line: A short line drawn for a note above or below the staff.

legato (It): Smooth.

leggero, leggiero (It): Lightly.

leno (It): Faint.

lento (It): slow.

lesto (It): Lively.

licks: Slang for a short musical idea or phrase.

ligature 1: A metal device used by woodwind instruments to secure the reed to the mouthpiece. 2: A curved line over a group of notes to be sung on the same syllable.

lip: A verb meaning to adjust the pitch of a note slightly up or down.

lip trill: A technique used by brass players; an upward trill without use of valves.

l'istesso (It): The same.

loco (It): Return to the normal place. Used after playing 8va or 8vb.

Locrian: a medieval mode which starts on the seventh degree of a diatonic scale. B to B on the white keys of a piano.

lungo (It): Long.

Lydian: A medieval mode beginning on the 4th degree of a diatonic scale. F to F on the white keys of a piano.

M

ma (It): But. *Allegro ma non troppo*.

maestoso (It): Majestically.

maggiore (It): Major.

major: Used in music theory to describe *intervals*, *chords*, and *scales*.

major chord: A triad consisting of a root, major third, and perfect fifth.

major scale: A diatonic scale with half steps between from the third to fourth degrees and seventh to eighth degrees.

marcato (It): Stressed or accented.
 marcia (It): March.
 mariachi (Sp): A Mexican folk group with 2 violins, guitar, guitarron and maybe rhythm instruments.
 martelé, martellato (Fr): Play with short detached bow strokes without lifting the bow from the strings.
 masculine cadence: A *cadence* in which the last chord is on the strong beat.
 measure: The space between two bar lines.
 mediant: The third degree of a scale.
 melisma: Several notes sung on the same syllable.
 melismatic: Song that uses melismas.
 melodic minor: A natural minor scale with the sixth and seventh degrees raised ascending, and lowered descending.
 melody: A sequence of single notes.
 meno (It): Less.
 meter: The rhythmic structure of a piece determined by number of beats, time values and accents. *Simple meters* are divisible by two; *compound meters* are divisible by 3.
 metronome: A mechanical or electronic device used for sounding beats per minute. Invented c. 1812.
 mezza voce (It): Half voice. Quiet.
 mezzo (It): Half or medium (e.g. mezzo forte).
 mezzo forte (It): Medium loud.
 mezzo piano (It): Medium soft.
 mezzo soprano (It): A female voice between soprano and alto.
mf (abbr.): Mezzo forte.
 mi: The 3rd degree of a *diatonic* scale.
 middle C: The note C in the middle of the *grand staff* and near the middle of the keyboard.
 minim: British name for the *half note*.
 minim rest: Half rest.
 minor: Used to describe *intervals, chords, and scales*. Means lesser.
 minor scale (natural): A *diatonic* scale in which the 3rd, 6th and 7th degrees are lowered a half step from the *major scale*. See also *harmonic minor*, and *melodic minor*.
 misterioso (It): Mysteriously.
 mit (Ger.): With.
 Mixolydian: A Medieval mode starting on the 5th degree of a diatonic scale. G to G on the white keys of a piano.
 M.M. (abbr.): Stands for Maelzel's *metronome*, the man who invented the device.
 mode: A type of scale with a certain arrangement of intervals. See *Ionian, Dorian, Phrygian, Lydian, Mixolydian, Aeolian, and Locrian*.
 moderato (It): A moderate tempo.
 modulate: To change from one key to another.
 moll (Ger.): Minor.
 molto (It): Very.
 monotone: An unvaried pitch.
 mordent: A melodic ornament consisting of the alteration of the written note with the

note directly below (lower ~) or above (upper ~) it.
 mouthpiece: On a brass or woodwind instrument, the part responsible for making the vibrations, placed on the player's lips or in the mouth.
 moveable do: A system of singing using syllables in which the first note of any diatonic scale is *do*. See *fixed do*.
 movement: A self-contained piece of music within a larger piece of music.
mp (abbr.): *Mezzo piano*.
 music theory: The study of how music is written down and put together.
 music therapy: The use of music as a healing agent for physical and psychological problems.
 muta (It): Direction to change keys, usu. found in timpani and horn parts.
 mutes: Devices used to muffle, soften, or change the sound of an instrument.

N

natural: The symbol which indicates a note is neither sharp nor flat, and when the symbol is in front of the note, it cancels any previous accidental.
 natural horn: A horn with no valves or slides.
 natural minor: A diatonic scale with the whole-half step pattern of WHWWHWW. A to A on the white keys of the piano.
 Neopolitan sixth: A chord constructed on the fourth degree of a *diatonic* scale with a minor third and a minor sixth above the bass.
 neck: The long slender part on a string instrument to which the fretboard is attached.
 neumes: The signs and symbols used for musical notation in the Middle Ages.
 ninth: The interval of nine *diatonic* notes. An octave and a second.
 ninth chord: Root, third, fifth, seventh, and ninth.
 node: A point of lowest amplitude in the wavelength of a string. These points are where *harmonics* are produced on a string instrument.
 non (Fr): No or not.
 nonet: A piece for 9 musicians.
 nonharmonic notes: Notes not a part of the chord structures around them.
 non-transposing: instruments pitched in the key of C (e.g. flute, trombone, bells).
 notehead: The main, bulbous part of a note.

O

O 1: The symbol for diminished. 2: The symbol for an open string.
 obbligato (It): An optional part contrasting the melody. Originally meant an obligatory part.
 oblique motion: Two melodic lines, one of which moves while the other remains stationary.
 oboe: A *double-reed* woodwind instrument with a conical bore.
 oboe d'amore: Slightly larger than the normal oboe and with a more bulbous bell. Pitched a minor third lower.
 octave - the interval between the first and eighth degrees of a *diatonic* scale.

octet 1: Eight performers. 2: A piece of music for eight performers.
 odd meter: A meter with an odd number grouped with an even number of beats per measure, like 7/4 (3+4) and 5/8 (2+3).
 oliphant: A medieval horn made from an elephant's tusk.
 Op. (abbr.): Opus.
 open: Not stopped or muted.
 open fifth: A triad with no third.
 open harmony: When notes of a chord aren't played as closely together as possible. See *close harmony*.
 open notes 1: On string instruments, the open, unfretted strings. 2: Notes on wind instruments played without the use of valves or keys.
 open triad: Triad without the third.
 Opus (Lat.): Means "work"; used with a number which shows the order in which a composer's work were composed.

ornamentation: The addition of *ornaments* to a melody.
 ornaments: Melodic embellishments. May be written in or improvised. Some ornaments: *acciaccatura, appoggiatura, arpeggio, grace notes, mordent, trill, turn*.
 ossia (It): Indicates a passage which is an alternative version.
 ostinato (It): A repeated musical phrase, rhythmic pattern, or motive, usu. occurring in the bass.
 ottava (It): Octave.
 ottava alta (8va) (It): An octave higher.
 ottava bassa (8vb) (It): An octave lower.
 overblow: A technique of blowing harder used in brass instruments when *harmonics* are produced above the *fundamental*.
 overtone series: The same thing as the *harmonic series*, but without the fundamental.

P

p 1: (It) *Piano*; soft dynamic. 2: (Sp) Pulgar, which is the thumb of the right hand in guitar music.
 parallel chords: The movement of specific chords up and down the scale.
 parallel fifths, fourths, octaves: Two parts moving in the same direction at the same time a fifth, fourth or octave apart.
 parallel intervals: Movement of two or more parts of the same interval in the same direction.
 parallel keys: Major and minor keys which have the same *tonic*.
 parallel motion: The movement in two or more parts in the same direction with the same intervals.
 passing notes: Scalewise notes which connect two notes of the harmony, but are not part of the harmony themselves.
 pause: A rest of variable length. A fermata.
 pedal point: An organ term used for a note, usu. in the bass, around which other notes move.
 pedal tone: A "false" note below the fundamental on a brass instrument.
 pentachord: The first five notes of a diatonic scale.
 pentatonic scale 1: Any scale with five notes. 2: The major scale without the 4th

and 7th degrees. The black keys on a piano.

percussion family: Instruments of indefinite pitch which resonate when struck or shaken. Drums, maracas, bells, gongs, and xylophones.

perfect cadence: A cadence moving from the dominant chord (V) to the tonic chord (I).

perfect interval: Octave, fifth, and fourth without alterations.

perfect pitch: The ability to identify any note by ear.

period: A segment of music consisting of two or more phrases and a cadence.

pesante (It): Heavy.

pf (abbr.): Soft then loud.

phrase: A musical "sentence" or idea.

Phrygian: A medieval mode beginning on the third degree of a diatonic scale. E to E on the white keys of a piano.

pianissimo (It): Very soft.

pianississimo (It): Very, very soft.

piano (It) **1**: Soft. **2**: Short for "pianoforte," a keyboard instrument.

piano quartet: Violin, viola, cello, and piano.

piano trio: Violin, viola, and piano.

Picardy third: A minor piece ending on a chord with a major third.

piccolo (It): A member of the flute family which sounds an octave higher than written. Smaller than the normal flute.

pitch: The highness or lowness of a tone.

pitch pipe: A small wind instrument used for tuning.

pivot chord: A chord used when modulating which is the same for both keys.

pizzicato: Plucking the strings of an instrument that uses a bow.

placido (It): Calm, placid.

plagal cadence: A cadence which moves from the subdominant chord (IV) to the tonic chord (I).

poco a poco (It): Little by little.

polychords: Chords resulting from two triadic units.

polymetric: The simultaneous use of different meters.

polyphony: Music which combines two or more melodic lines.

polytonal: The simultaneous use of different key signatures.

pomposo (It): Pompous.

ponticello (It): The bridge of a string instrument.

portamento: A smooth glide from one note to another.

portato (It): An articulation halfway between staccato and legato.

pp (abbr.): pianissimo.

ppp (abbr.): pianississimo.

prebend: To bend a string before playing on a string instrument, esp. guitar.

preciso (It): Exact.

prélude (Fr): An introductory piece or movement.

preparation: The use of a consonant note before playing that same note as part of a discord.

prestissimo (It): Very, very fast. The fastest tempo.

presto (It): Very fast.

prima donna (It): The most important woman in an opera.

primary chords: The tonic (I), subdominant (IV), and dominant (V) chords of a key.

prime **1**: Unison. **2**: The first note of a scale.

principal: The section leader.

program music: Music that tells a story or paints a picture. As opposed to absolute music.

progression: Movement from one chord to another.

pronto (It): Prompt.

pulgar (Sp): Thumb. Used specifically in guitar music for the thumb of the right hand.

pull-off: A technique used by string players in which a fretted note is plucked while it's released which sounds the note below.

pulse: The beat.

Pythagorean scale: The earliest known scale comprising an octave. Whole and half step arrangements are the same as the major scale, but the ratio of whole and half steps is different.

Q

Quadrat (Ger.): A natural sign.

quadruple meter: A time signature with four beats in a measure.

quadruplet: Four notes to be played in the space of three notes of equal value.

quarter note, quarter rest: A note/rest one fourth the length of a whole note and half the length of a half note. Equal to one beat in 4/4 time.

quartet **1**: A composition for four performers. **2**: Four performers.

quasi (It): Almost, as if.

quaver: British term for an eighth note.

quintet **1**: A composition for five performers. **2**: Five performers.

quintuple meter: A time signature with five beats per measure (e.g. 5/4 time).

quintuplet: five notes to be played in the time of four notes of equal value.

R

racket: **1**: A double-reed instrument of the Renaissance period. **2**: The sound a beginning alto saxophone player makes.

ragtime: The earliest form of jazz from the early 1900s.

rallentando (It): Decreasing speed gradually.

range: The notes from lowest to highest that an instrument or voice is capable of producing.

rattenuo (It): Slowing down.

re: The second note of a diatonic scale.

reduction: The arrangement of a piece for a smaller number of parts.

reed: A vibrating strip of cane which vibrates at high frequency when blown.

refrain: A section of a composition that occurs several times.

register: A certain range of an instrument or voice.

relative keys: Major and minor keys with the same key signature (e.g. A minor and C major).

Renaissance (Fr): Meaning "rebirth." The musical era from the mid 1400s through the end of the 1500s.

resolution: A progression of chords or notes from dissonance to consonance.

rest: A period of silence. Types of rests: whole rest, half rest, quarter rest, eighth rest, sixteenth rest, thirty-second rest.

retardation: Gradually slowing.

retrograde: Playing a melody line backwards.

rhythm: A pattern of long and short in music.

rhythm section: In jazz and pop music, the piano, bass, guitar and drums. Provides the harmony and rhythm.

riff: Repeated melodic idea.

ritardando (It): Gradually decreasing speed.

ritenuto (It): Immediately slower.

rolled chord: A chord in which the notes are played in rapid succession, much like an arpeggio.

romantic: The musical era from ~1820 to 1900.

root: The fundamental note of a chord or scale.

rubato (It): A free tempo which speeds up and slows down at the conductor's or performer's discretion, but without changing the basic pulse.

rudiments: Basic sticking patterns used for drums.

run: A fast scale passage.

S

S. (abbr.): Segno, senza, sign, sol, solo, soprano, sordini, subito.

SA (abbr.): Used in choral music to indicate soprano, alto.

SAB (abbr.): Used in choral music to indicate soprano, alto, baritone.

sackbut (Ger.): The ancestor of the trombone. German for push-pull.

saltato, saltando (It): a bow technique in which the bow is bounced lightly on the string.

SATB: Used in choral music to indicate soprano, alto, tenor, bass.

saxhorn: Brass family instruments consisting of valved bugles invented by Adolphe Sax.

saxophone: A woodwind family instrument of keyed brass, conical bore, and single reed. Types of saxophones: Eb soprano; Bb soprano; Eb alto; Bb tenor; Eb baritone; Bb bass.

scale: An ascending or descending series of tones related to a certain chosen fundamental tone.

scale degrees: The names and numbers for notes in a scale.

scat singing: A form of vocal jazz improvisation in which the performer makes up the melody with nonsense syllables.

scherzando (It): Playful and light-hearted.

scherzo (It): Literally "joke." A piece with a lively tempo.

schmaltz (Yid): Excessively sentimental.


score: The notation of a composition which shows all its parts arranged horizontally and aligned rhythmically.

secco (It): Means "dry." Unornamented.

second: The interval between two consecutive degrees of a diatonic scale.

secondary dominant: A dominant chord (V) built upon the fifth degree of a chord other than the tonic.

secular music: Any music not sacred.

segno (It): Sign. 

segue: To continue without a break.

semibreve: British name for whole note.

semiquaver: British name for a sixteenth note.

semitone: One half step.

sempre (It): Always.

senza (It): Without. Senza sordino.

septet 1: A composition for seven performers. 2: Seven performers.

septuplet: Seven notes played in the time of four or six notes of equal value.

seventh: The interval between the first and seventh degrees of a diatonic scale.

seventh chord: A chord containing a root, third, fifth, and seventh.

sextet 1: A composition for six performers. 2: Six performers.

sextuplet: Six notes played in the time of four notes of equal value.

sharp 1: The symbol indicating to raise a note one half step. 2: To be slightly above normal pitch.

sightreading: Playing a piece of music without studying it.

sightsinging: Singing a piece of music without studying it.

signs: Symbols which tell a performer articulation, bowing, breathing, dynamics, fingering, ornamentation and other musical effects.

similar motion: The movement of two or more parts in the same direction.

simile, sim. (It): To continue in a similar style.

simple meter: A time signature whose pulse is divisible by 2 (e.g. 2/4, 3/4, 4/4). See compound meter.

sin' al fine (It): To the end.

single reed instruments: Instruments which use only one reed attached to a mouthpiece of some sort.

six-four chord: A triad in the second inversion with a sixth and a fourth above the bass note.

sixteenth note, sixteenth rest: A note/rest one sixteenth as long as a whole note and half the length of an eighth note. In 4/4 time, 1/4 of a beat.

sixth chord 1: A triad in the first inversion, with a sixth and a third above the root. 2: A chord with an added sixth.

skip: Melodic movement of more than a whole step.

slide 1: To move smoothly from one note to another with a constant sound. 2: The movable part on a trombone which is used to change the pitch by lengthening the instrument.

slur: A curved line connecting two notes of different pitch; to be played as legato as possible.

smorzando (It): Fading away.

so, sol: A solfege syllable for the fifth degree of the diatonic scale.

solfege: A system used for eartraining which uses syllables (do, re, mi, etc.) for the degrees of the scale.

solo (It): Means "alone." To perform alone or as the most important part.

sopra (It): Over, above.

soprano: The highest female singing voice.

soprano clef: The C clef that puts middle C on the first line of the staff.

sordino (It): Mute.

sostenuto (It): Sustained.

sotto voce (It): Quietly, beneath the voice.

Sousaphone: A tuba made for John Phillip Sousa's band which encircles the player.

spacing: The vertical placement of the notes of a chord.

spezzato (It): Divided.

spiccato (It): A bow technique in which the middle of the bow is bounced on the string at a moderate speed.

SSA: Used in choral music to indicate soprano, soprano, alto.

SSAA: Used in choral music to indicate two sopranos, two altos.

staccato (It): Means "detached." Short separated notes indicated by a small dot over or under the note head.

staff, staves: The horizontal lines on which music is written.

stem: A vertical line extending from a note head.

step: Movement melodically of one or two semitones.

stesso (It): Same. L'stesso tempo.

stick 1: The wooden part of the bow. 2: A conductor's baton.

sticking: The hand pattern for drums.

stringendo (It): Hurrying the tempo to increase tension.

string quartet: Two violins, viola, and cello.

string quintet: Two violins, two violas, and cello.

string trio: Violin, viola, cello.

subdominant: The fourth degree of a diatonic scale.

subito (It): Suddenly.

submediant: The sixth degree of a diatonic scale.

subtonic: A flatted seventh degree of a diatonic scale, one whole step below the tonic.

suite: A collection of short instrumental movements.

sul (It): On the.

sul ponticello (It): Bowing on or next to the bridge to produce a high-pitched eerie sound.

sul tasto: On the fretboard.

superdominant: The sixth degree of the diatonic scale. Same as submediant.

supertonic: The second degree of a diatonic scale.

sur (Fr): On, over.

suspension: A counterpoint technique in which a consonant note is sustained while the other voices move which results in a dissonance which is then resolved.

sussurando (It): Sussurating, whispering.

swing 1: A style of jazz featuring big band dance music. 2: A treatment of the eighth note which gives it a lilting triplet feel of long-short.

symphony 1: A large orchestra. 2: A piece composed for an orchestra, usu. in 4 movements.

syncopation: Rhythmic accents on weak beats, or weak parts of the beat.

system: Two or more staves connected.

T

t. (abbr.): Tempo, trill, tre, tutti.

T. (abbr.): Tenor, tonic.

TAB (abbr.): Tablature. A method of notation developed for lute and guitar in which the lines of the staff represent the strings and numbers represent the frets. Developed in 1500s.

tacet (Lat.): Means "be silent." Direction in a part to not play or sing.

tactus (Lat.): Used in the 1400s to measure the length of a beat. Precursor to bar lines.

tag: The end of a piece, the *coda*.

taking 4s/8s: A jazz term. Player takes a solo, usu. improvised, 4 or 8 bars long.

talking drum: Ancient drum of western Africa, beaten with a curved stick. A waisted drum, the pitch controlled by squeezing at the waist which tightens the skin membrane thereby raising the pitch.

tardo, tardando: Become slower.

tanto (It): Much.

temperament: A system of tuning, esp. of pianos, in which pure intervals are altered slightly to enable playing in different keys.

tempestoso (It): Tempestuous, stormy.

tempo: Means "time." The speed of music.

tenor: A high male voice, the range between alto and baritone.

tenor clef: A C clef falling on the fourth line of the staff.

tenor saxophone: Of the saxophone family, in the key of Bb.

tenor trombone: The regular trombone.

tenth: An interval of an octave and a third.

tertian harmony: Usual harmony, based on thirds.

tessitura (It) 1: The average highness and lowness of a piece. 2: The usable range of a voice or instrument.

tetrachord: The first four notes of a scale.

texture: The number of voices in a piece: *monophonic*, *homophonic*, and *polyphonic*.

theme: The musical subject of a piece, the main idea.

thesis (Gk): The strong beat, usu. the downbeat.

third: An interval of three diatonic scale degrees.

thirty-second note, thirty-second rest: A note/rest one thirty-second as long as a whole note, and half as long as a sixteenth note.

ti: The seventh degree of a diatonic scale. The leading tone.

tie: A curved line which connects notes of the same pitch indicating they are to be played as one continuous note.

timbre: Sound quality or color.

time: A synonym for meter.

time signature: The meter. Numbers at the beginning of a piece of music, after the clef. Top number is beats per measure, bottom number is which note receives one beat.

tonal: Relating to key.

tone: A sound of particular quality. The basis of music.

tone row: Used in serial and twelve-tone music. The order of twelve notes chosen by a composer which appear in the composition in that specific order.

tonguing: A technique on wind instruments of articulating notes with the tongue.

tonic: The first degree of a scale (I), or the root of a chord.

tonic accent: A type of accent in which the accented note is significantly higher than those around it.

tr (abbr.): Trill.

trading 4s/8s: Jazz term. Players take turns playing solos, usu. improvised, of 4 or 8 bars.

train wreck: Slang for when an ensemble's playing contains so many mistakes that it breaks down to the point of stopping.

tranquillo (It): Calm, tranquil.

transcription: The writing down of a piece from a recording.

transpose, transposing: Changing a piece from one key to another.

transposing instruments: Instruments whose notes sound at a different pitch than written.

treble clef: The G clef which centers on the second line of the staff, naming it G.

tremolo (It): **1:** A bow technique in which short up and down bow strokes are used on a single note. **2:** The rapid alteration between two or more notes, usu. more than a step apart.

triad: A chord of three notes: a root, third, and fifth.

trill: An ornament. The rapid alteration of one note with another note usu. a step or half step higher than the written note. Indicated by the symbols *tr* or *tr*.

trio **1:** A composition for three performers. **2:** Three performers. **3:** The middle section of a march.

triple meter: Meters with three beats per measure, or meters with beats divisible by three.

triple-tonguing: Technique of rapid articulation which uses the front and back of the tongue (t-k-t, or t-t-k, or t-k-t, k-t-k).

tritone: The interval of an augmented fourth or diminished fifth. Considered the most dissonant interval.

tromba (It): Trumpet.

trombone: Member of the brass family. Uses a slide to change pitch. Also called 'bone. Types of 'bones: soprano (also called slide trumpet), tenor, bass.

troppo (It): Too much. (e.g. Allegro non troppo).

troubadour: A wandering minstrel in the Middle Ages of Western Europe.

trumpet: A member of the brass family with cylindrical bore and high pitch and brilliant sound. Types of trumpets: Bb, C, Eb, Bb piccolo.

TTB (abbr.): Used in choral music to indicate tenor, tenor, bass.

TTBB (abbr.): Used in choral music to indicate two tenors, two basses.

tuba: Lowest member of the brass family, conical bore, very large. May be in BB-flat, Eb, or F bass.

tune **1:** A song or melody. **2:** To put an instrument at the correct pitch (in tune).

tuner **1:** A mechanical device which reads pitches and tells the player where it falls in relation to standard intonation. **2:** A small screw near the bridge which allows fine tuning of string instruments.

tuning fork: A device with two tines that, when struck, vibrates to produce a pure single note.

turn: An ornament which "turns" around the principal note, going above it and below it. Indicated by the symbol *~*.

tutti (It): Means "all." Used as an indication for all players to play, usu. comes after a solo or soli section.

twelve-bar blues: A musical form using three chords (I, IV, V) in a specific pattern which is twelve bars long. Characterized by many *blue notes* and improvisation.

twelve-tone scale: A scale using all 12 half steps in an octave organized in a certain order called a *tone row*.

U

ukulele (HI): A Hawaiian instrument in the string family, small with four strings.

unequal temperament: A system of tuning, esp. of piano which allows an instrument to play in several keys.

unison: Two or more voices sounding the same pitch.

un poco (It): A little.

upbeat **1:** The "and" of the beat, the second half of the beat. **2:** A pick-up note or *anacrusis*. **3:** Denotes a fast or happy tune.

up bow: Stroking the bow upward.

up-tempo: Fast.

ut (Lat.): Another name for *do* or C.

V

valve: A device on brass instruments which redirects the air column to produce a different pitch, may be piston or rotary.

vamp: A short, usu. introductory section, which repeats until a performer is ready to enter.

vibrato: A type of ornament which is a fluctuation of pitch. Used almost constantly in violin, flute and voice.

viola: Instrument in the violin family, uses alto and treble clef, sounding lower than violin.

violin family: Instrument of the violin family (imagine that), which uses treble clef, has four strings and a high pitch.

violoncello: A member of the violin family of the tenor range. Held between the knees and uses the bass and treble clefs. Also called cello.

virtuoso: An instrumental performer of exceptional skill.

vivace (It): A very quick tempo.

Vi., Vln (abbr.): Violin.

Vla. (abbr.): Viola.

Vlc. (abbr.): Violoncello.

vocalise: A vocal warm-up exercise using different vowels.

vocal tenor clef: A G clef used for tenor parts in vocal music and pitched an octave below regular treble clef.

voice **1:** An instrumental or vocal part. **2:** The sound of the human voice.

voice leading: The movement of an individual part in *polyphonic* music.

voicing: The arrangement of pitches horizontally in a chord.

voix (Fr): Voice.

volti (It): Turn the page.

volti subito (It): Turn the page quickly.

volume: Loudness.

vox (Lat.): Voice.

V.S. (abbr.): Volti subito.

W

Wagner tuba: Five-valved horns designed by Richard Wagner for use in his opera *The Ring of the Nibelung*.

wah: A brass instrument sound produced when a device (stem of harmon mute or plunger mute) is removed from the bell.

walking bass: A bass line, usu. moving stepwise, in a steady pattern of quarter or eighth notes.

well-tempered: A tuning system in which an instrument, usu. piano, can play in all twelve keys.

whole note, whole rest: A note equal to two half notes/rests, or four quarter notes/rests. Four beats in 4/4 time.

whole step: Two half steps, or a major second.

wind instrument: An instrument on which the sound is produced by the vibration of an air column.

woodwind: An instrument made of wood or using a reed to create vibrations. Also the flute.

woodwind quintet: Flute, clarinet, oboe, French horn, and bassoon.

X-Y-Z

xylophone: A barred pitched percussion instrument, often with resonator tubes extending down from the bars.

yodel: A style of singing in which the voice centers around the break between the normal voice and falsetto. Originated in Switzerland.

Zink (Ger.): Cornett.

zydeco: A style of music mixing Cajun, Afro-Caribbean, and rhythm and blues.

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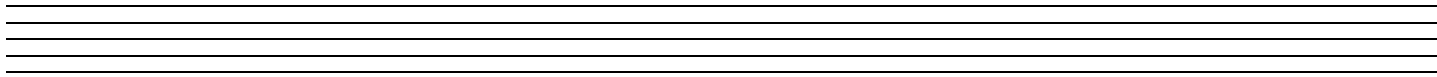
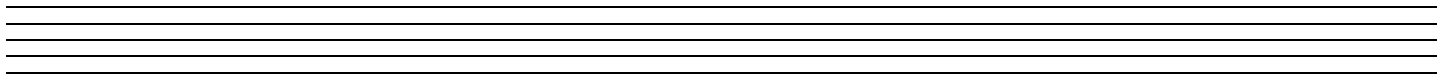
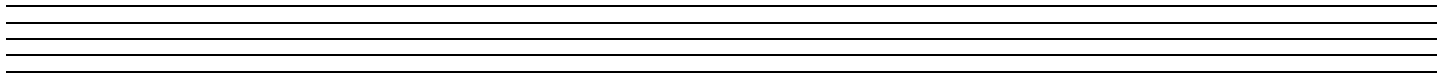
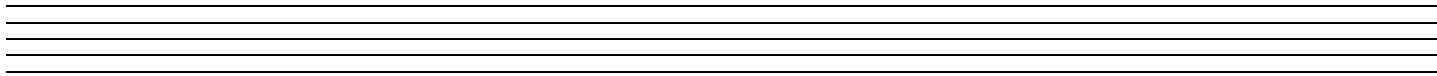
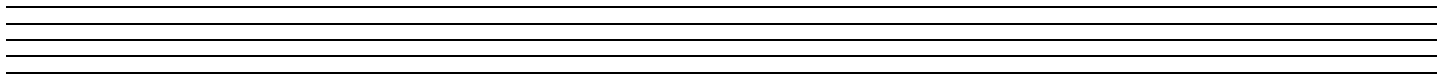
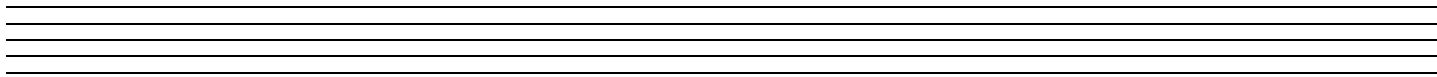
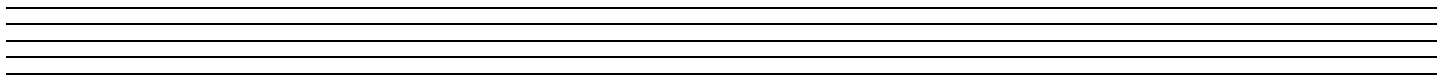
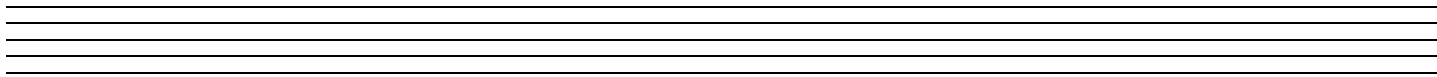
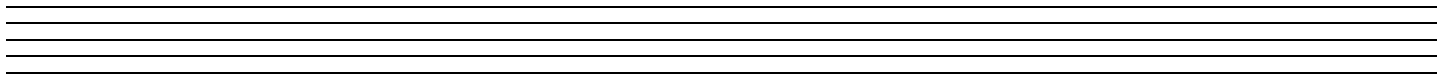
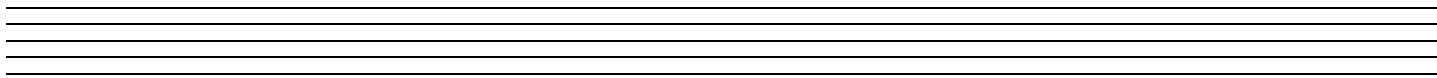
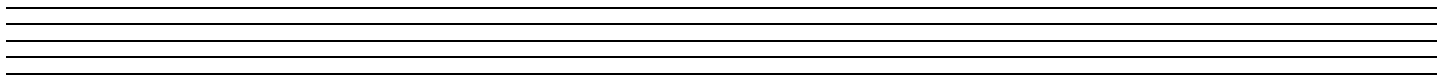
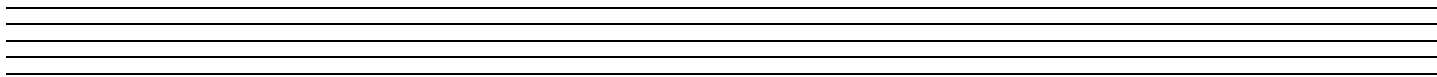
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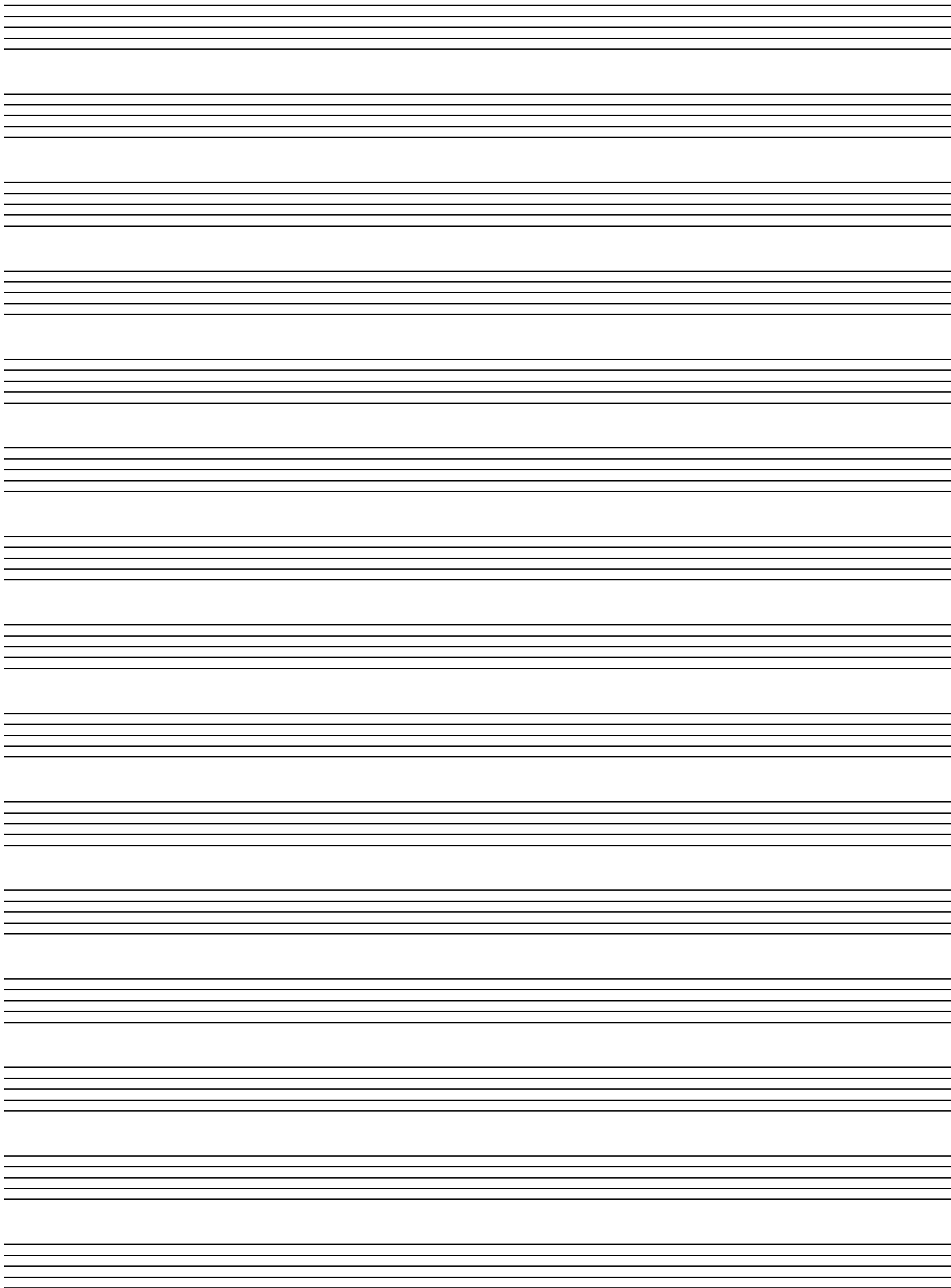
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Feel free to photocopy these pages, but please don't write on them. If they're left blank, others may also use them. If the book is yours however, go for it.





General Info About These Scales

On the next few pages you'll find scales in both bass and treble clef. I've included the Major, natural minor, harmonic minor, and pentatonic scales. Because of the limitations of your instrument, you may have to transpose some scales up or down an octave.

The layout for these scales was handled by our Department of Redundancy Department. You'll notice the scales have both the key signature and the accidentals written in front of the note. This is to aid you in your practice of scales. Normally you'd see just the key signature.

Remember that there are 15 major scales, but three of them overlap, so you'll really only be practicing the fingering for 12 scales. Confusing? You bet. If you remember enharmonic notes, you'll understand why this is. The Major Scales that overlap are *Db/C#*, *Gb/F#*, and *Cb/B*. The minor scales that overlap are *bb/a#*, *eb/d#*, and *ab/g#*. The fingerings and the sound of these enharmonic scale is the same, but they're written differently.

The scales are shown ascending only, but be sure to practice them going up, going down, and for as many octaves as you can comfortably play. Vary the speed, be sure to start slowly, and memorize them as soon as possible. Don't neglect the modes. Start on the second degree and go an octave. The third degree. Fourth. Etc. etc. Apply the patterns below to the modes as well.

Scale Pattern Suggestions

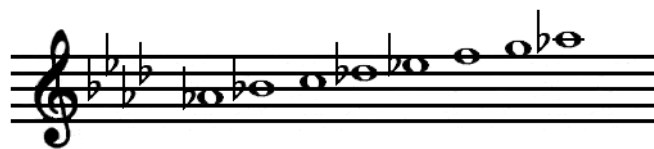
Here are some ways to get these scales under your fingers. The numbers you see represent the degrees of the scale with 1 being the tonic, or bottom note of the scale. Often at the beginning or end of the scale pattern, you'll go outside the octave of the scale. When you go below the tonic or root note, this is shown by a minus (-) sign. For example, one note below the tonic (the seventh degree of the scale) would be -7. In the key of C this would be the "B" just beneath the tonic. Going above the octave, just add another number. For example one note above the 8th note of the scale would be 9, then 10, etc.

These may seem difficult to understand at first. To make these more clear, write out the number under each scale degree, then write out the scale pattern itself. Once you play these a few times, you'll hear the pattern and they will make more sense. Memorize them

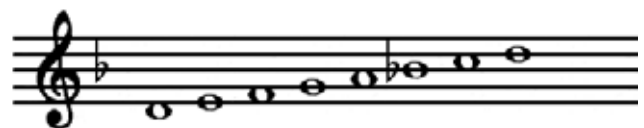
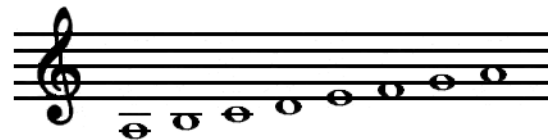
Table 1: Scale Patterns

Pattern Name	Pattern (1 = tonic)
the scale	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,7,6,5,4,3,2,1 (also try 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,8,7,6,5,4,3,2,1)
thirds	1,3,2,4,3,5,4,6,5,7,6,8,7,9,8,6,7,5,6,4,5,3,4,2,3,1,2,-7,1
fourths	1,4,2,5,3,6,4,7,5,8,6,9,7,10,8,5,7,4,6,3,5,2,4,1,3,-7,2,-6, 1
fifths	1,5,2,6,3,7,4,8,5,9,6,10,7,11,8,4,7,3,6,2,5,1,4,-7,3,-6,2,-5,1
rolling thirds	1,2,3,1,2,3,4,2,3,4,5,3,4,5,6,4,5,6,7,5,6,7,8,6,7,8,9,7,8 8,7,6,8,7,6,5,7,6,5,4,6,5,4,3,5,4,3,2,4,3,2,1,3,2,1,-7,2,1
rolling triplets (use 8th note triplet rhythm)	1,2,3,2,3,4,3,4,5,4,5,6,5,6,7,6,7,8,7,8,9,8 8,7,6,7,6,5,6,5,4,5,4,3,4,3,2,3,2,1,2,1,-7,1
rolling fifths	1,5,4,3,2,6,5,4,3,7,6,5,4,8,7,6,5,9,8,7,6,10,9,8,7,11,10,9,8 8,4,5,6,7,3,4,5,6,2,3,4,5,1,2,3,4,-7,1,2,3,-6,-7,1,2,-5,-6,-7,1
rolling fourths (use 8th note triplet rhythm)	1,4,3,2,5,4,3,6,5,4,7,6,5,8,7,6,9,8,7,10,9,8 8,5,6,7,4,5,6,3,4,5,2,3,4,1,2,3,-7,1,2,-6,-7,1

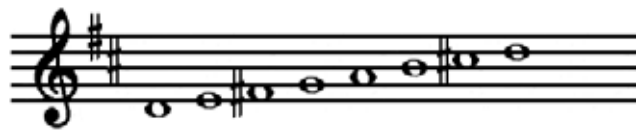
Treble Clef Major Scales (flats)



Treble Clef Natural minor Scales (flats)



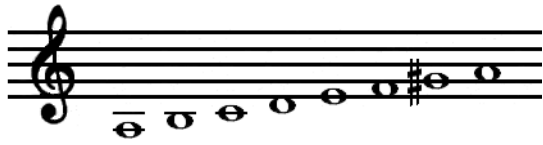
Treble Clef Major Scales (sharps)



Treble Clef Natural minor Scales (sharps)



Treble Clef Harmonic minor Scales



Treble Clef Major Pentatonic Scales (flats)

Eight lines of musical notation in treble clef, each showing a major pentatonic scale with a different number of flats. The scales are: 1. C major (no flats), 2. F major (one flat), 3. Bb major (two flats), 4. Eb major (three flats), 5. Ab major (four flats), 6. Gb major (five flats), 7. F# major (six flats), and 8. C# major (seven flats).

Treble Clef Minor Pentatonic Scales (flats)

Eight lines of musical notation in treble clef, each showing a minor pentatonic scale with a different number of flats. The scales are: 1. C minor (no flats), 2. F minor (one flat), 3. Bb minor (two flats), 4. Eb minor (three flats), 5. Ab minor (four flats), 6. Gb minor (five flats), 7. F# minor (six flats), and 8. C# minor (seven flats).

Treble Clef Major Pentatonic Scales (sharps)

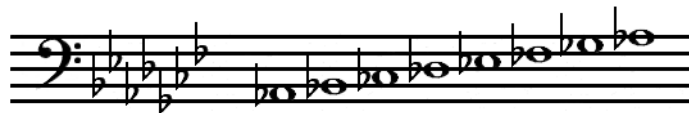
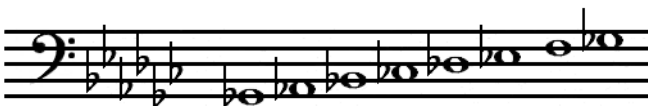
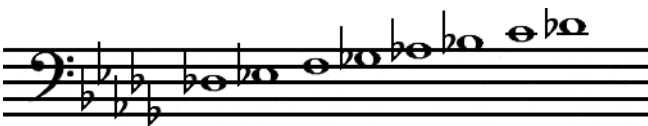
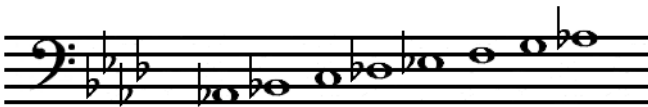
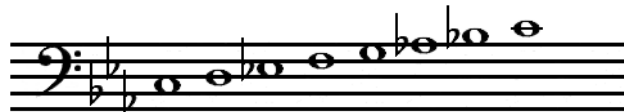
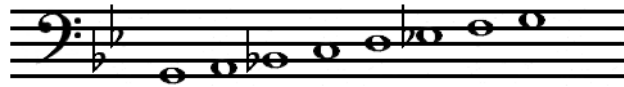
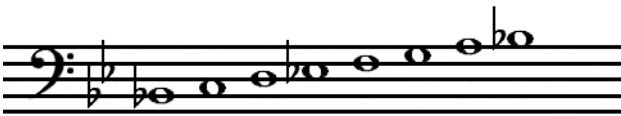
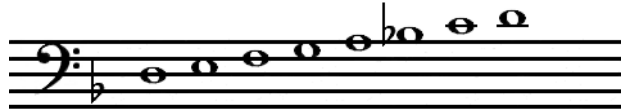
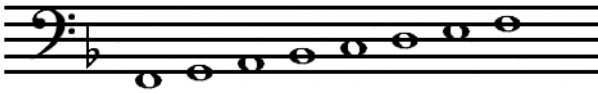
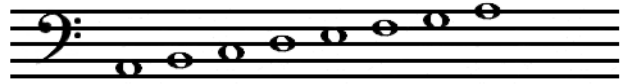
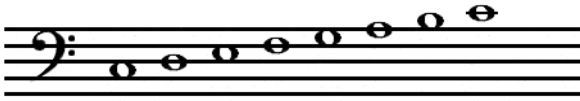


Treble Clef Minor Pentatonic Scales (sharps)



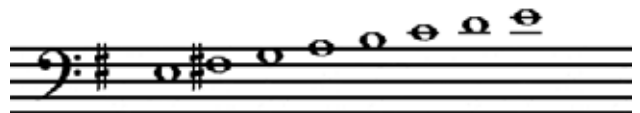
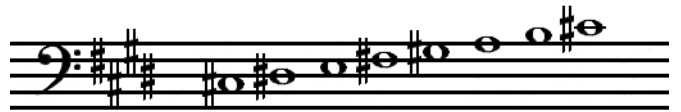
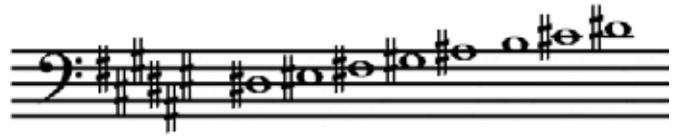
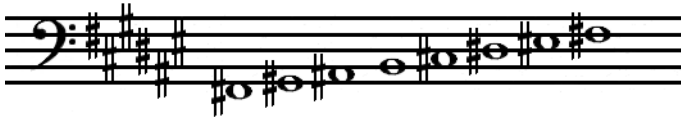
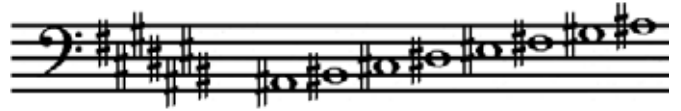
Bass Clef Major Scales (flats)

Bass Clef Natural minor Scales (flats)

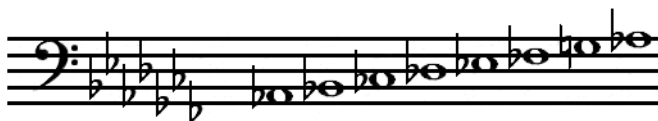
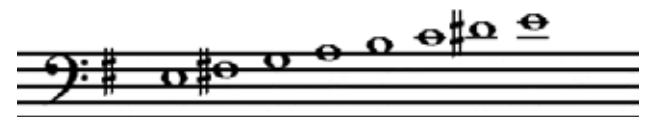
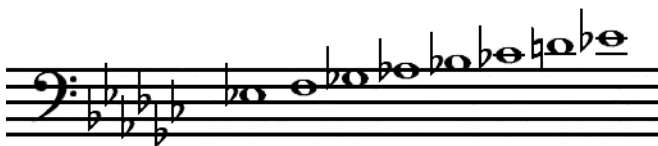
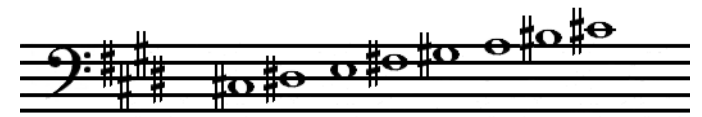
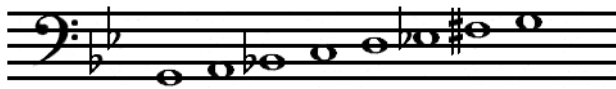
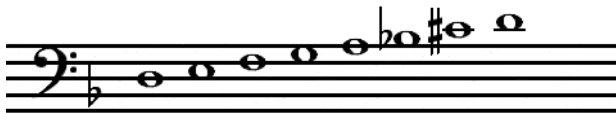
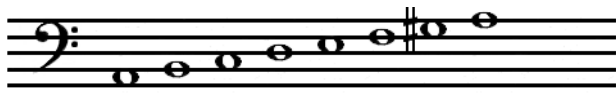


**Bass Clef Major Scales
(sharps)**

**Bass Clef Natural minor Scales
(sharps)**

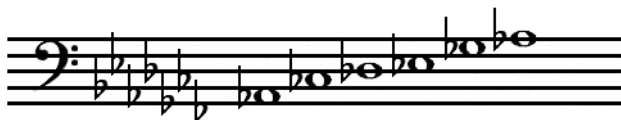
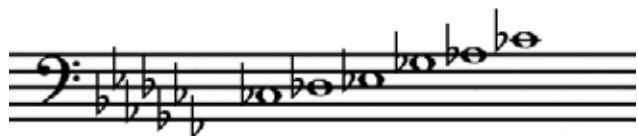
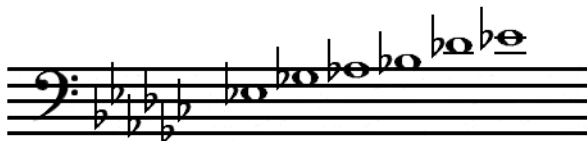
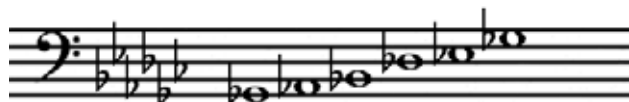
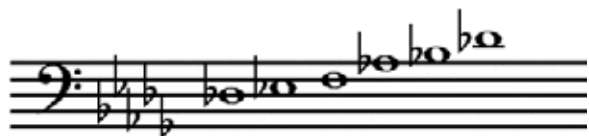
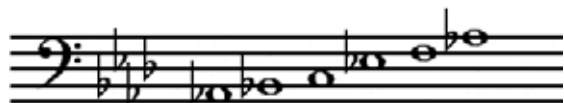
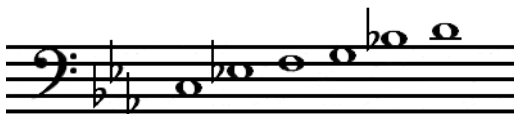
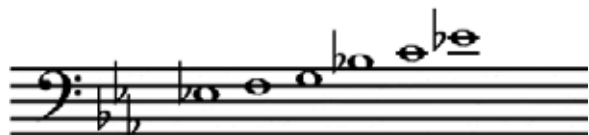
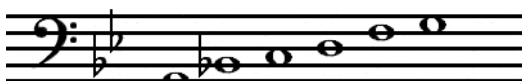
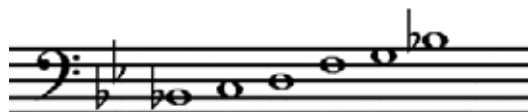
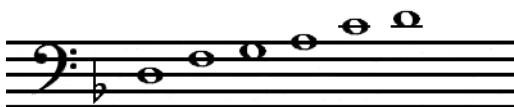
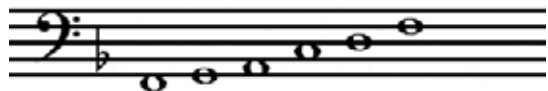
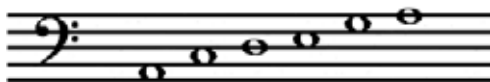
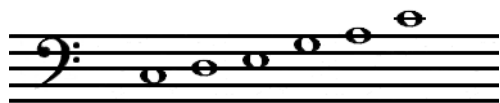


Bass Clef Harmonic minor Scales

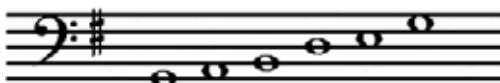
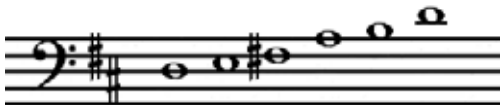
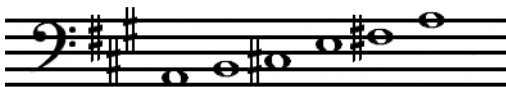


Bass Clef Major Pentatonic Scales (flats)

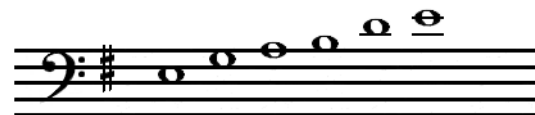
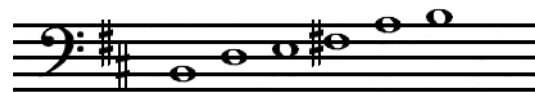
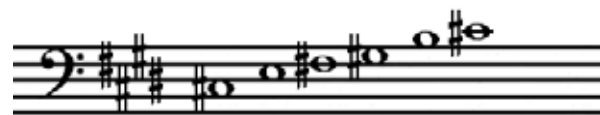
Bass Clef Minor Pentatonic Scales (flats)



Bass Clef Major Pentatonic Scales (sharps)



Bass Clef Minor Pentatonic Scales (sharps)



Major / Minor Pentatonic Scales

<p><u> </u> C</p> <p><u> </u> 8ths</p> <p><u> </u> triplets</p> <p><u> </u> a minor pentatonic</p> <p><u> </u> patterns</p> <p><u> </u> all modes</p>	<p><u> </u> Eb</p> <p><u> </u> 8ths</p> <p><u> </u> triplets</p> <p><u> </u> c minor pentatonic</p> <p><u> </u> patterns</p> <p><u> </u> all modes</p>	<p><u> </u> Gb/F#</p> <p><u> </u> 8ths</p> <p><u> </u> triplets</p> <p><u> </u> eb minor pentatonic</p> <p><u> </u> patterns</p> <p><u> </u> all modes</p>	<p><u> </u> A</p> <p><u> </u> 8ths</p> <p><u> </u> triplets</p> <p><u> </u> f# minor pentatonic</p> <p><u> </u> patterns</p> <p><u> </u> all modes</p>
<p><u> </u> F</p> <p><u> </u> 8ths</p> <p><u> </u> triplets</p> <p><u> </u> d minor pentatonic</p> <p><u> </u> patterns</p> <p><u> </u> all modes</p>	<p><u> </u> Ab</p> <p><u> </u> 8ths</p> <p><u> </u> triplets</p> <p><u> </u> f minor pentatonic</p> <p><u> </u> patterns</p> <p><u> </u> all modes</p>	<p><u> </u> Cb/B</p> <p><u> </u> 8ths</p> <p><u> </u> triplets</p> <p><u> </u> ab minor pentatonic</p> <p><u> </u> patterns</p> <p><u> </u> all modes</p>	<p><u> </u> D</p> <p><u> </u> 8ths</p> <p><u> </u> triplets</p> <p><u> </u> b minor pentatonic</p> <p><u> </u> patterns</p> <p><u> </u> all modes</p>
<p><u> </u> Bb</p> <p><u> </u> 8ths</p> <p><u> </u> triplets</p> <p><u> </u> g minor pentatonic</p> <p><u> </u> patterns</p> <p><u> </u> all modes</p>	<p><u> </u> Db/C#</p> <p><u> </u> 8ths</p> <p><u> </u> triplets</p> <p><u> </u> bb minor pentatonic</p> <p><u> </u> patterns</p> <p><u> </u> all modes</p>	<p><u> </u> E</p> <p><u> </u> 8ths</p> <p><u> </u> triplets</p> <p><u> </u> c# minor pentatonic</p> <p><u> </u> patterns</p> <p><u> </u> all modes</p>	<p><u> </u> G</p> <p><u> </u> 8ths</p> <p><u> </u> triplets</p> <p><u> </u> e minor pentatonic</p> <p><u> </u> patterns</p> <p><u> </u> all modes</p>

Blues Scales

<p><u> </u> C</p> <p><u> </u> 8ths</p> <p><u> </u> triplets</p> <p><u> </u> 16ths</p> <p><u> </u> patterns</p> <p><u> </u> all modes</p>	<p><u> </u> Eb</p> <p><u> </u> 8ths</p> <p><u> </u> triplets</p> <p><u> </u> 16ths</p> <p><u> </u> patterns</p> <p><u> </u> all modes</p>	<p><u> </u> Gb/F#</p> <p><u> </u> 8ths</p> <p><u> </u> triplets</p> <p><u> </u> 16ths</p> <p><u> </u> patterns</p> <p><u> </u> all modes</p>	<p><u> </u> A</p> <p><u> </u> 8ths</p> <p><u> </u> triplets</p> <p><u> </u> 16ths</p> <p><u> </u> patterns</p> <p><u> </u> all modes</p>
<p><u> </u> F</p> <p><u> </u> 8ths</p> <p><u> </u> triplets</p> <p><u> </u> 16ths</p> <p><u> </u> patterns</p> <p><u> </u> all modes</p>	<p><u> </u> Ab</p> <p><u> </u> 8ths</p> <p><u> </u> triplets</p> <p><u> </u> 16ths</p> <p><u> </u> patterns</p> <p><u> </u> all modes</p>	<p><u> </u> Cb/B</p> <p><u> </u> 8ths</p> <p><u> </u> triplets</p> <p><u> </u> 16ths</p> <p><u> </u> patterns</p> <p><u> </u> all modes</p>	<p><u> </u> D</p> <p><u> </u> 8ths</p> <p><u> </u> triplets</p> <p><u> </u> 16ths</p> <p><u> </u> patterns</p> <p><u> </u> all modes</p>
<p><u> </u> Bb</p> <p><u> </u> 8ths</p> <p><u> </u> triplets</p> <p><u> </u> 16ths</p> <p><u> </u> patterns</p> <p><u> </u> all modes</p>	<p><u> </u> Db/C#</p> <p><u> </u> 8ths</p> <p><u> </u> triplets</p> <p><u> </u> 16ths</p> <p><u> </u> patterns</p> <p><u> </u> all modes</p>	<p><u> </u> E</p> <p><u> </u> 8ths</p> <p><u> </u> triplets</p> <p><u> </u> 16ths</p> <p><u> </u> patterns</p> <p><u> </u> all modes</p>	<p><u> </u> G</p> <p><u> </u> 8ths</p> <p><u> </u> triplets</p> <p><u> </u> 16ths</p> <p><u> </u> patterns</p> <p><u> </u> all modes</p>

Symmetrical Scales

Chromatic

 8ths

 triplets

 16ths

 rolling triplets

 rolling 16ths

 every other (2nds)

 patterns

Diminished Scales

 C, Eb, Gb/F#, A

 3rds

 4ths

 rolling 3rds

 rolling triplet

 arpeggios

 B, D, F, Ab

 3rds

 4ths

 rolling 3rds

 rolling triplet

 arpeggios

 Bb, Db/C#, E, G

 3rds

 4ths

 rolling 3rds

 rolling triplet

 arpeggios

Whole Tone Scales

 C, D, E, F#, Ab, Bb

 thirds

 4ths

 rolling thirds

 rolling fourths

 patterns

 C#, Eb, F, G, A, B

 thirds

 4ths

 rolling thirds

 rolling fourths

 patterns

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(taken from *Sound the Trumpet: How to Blow Your Own Horn*)

Warm-up	Technique	_____ ornaments	Music	
_____ buzz lips (brass)	_____ scales	_____ transcriptions	_____ Long Term Song	Date _____ Time _____ to _____ Time _____ to _____ Recorded: <u>NY</u>
_____ buzz w/mouthpce	_____ patterns	_____ chord changes	_____ Excerpts	
_____ tongue warm-up	_____ arpeggio	_____ play along	_____ New Tunes	
_____ breathing	_____ new scale	_____	_____ Memorization	
_____ long tones	_____ lip slurs	_____	_____ PLAY!	
_____ low slurs	_____ dbl/trpl tonguing	_____	_____	
_____ finger dexterity	_____ transposing	_____	_____	
	_____ sight reading	_____	_____	
	_____ finger drills	_____	_____	

Comments: _____

To Do Tomorrow: _____

Warm-up	Technique	_____ ornaments	Music	
_____ buzz lips (brass)	_____ scales	_____ transcriptions	_____ Long Term Song	Date _____ Time _____ Time _____ Recorded: _____
_____ buzz w/mouthpce	_____ patterns	_____ chord changes	_____ Excerpts	
_____ tongue warm-up	_____ arpeggio	_____ play along	_____ New Tunes	
_____ breathing	_____ new scale	_____	_____ Memorization	
_____ long tones	_____ lip slurs	_____	_____ PLAY!	
_____ low slurs	_____ dbl/trpl tonguing	_____	_____	
_____ finger dexterity	_____ transposing	_____	_____	
	_____ sight reading	_____	_____	
	_____ finger drills	_____	_____	

Comments: _____

To Do Tomorrow: _____

Warm-up	Technique	_____ ornaments	Music	
_____ buzz lips (brass)	_____ scales	_____ transcriptions	_____ Long Term Song	Date _____ Time _____ Time _____ Recorded: _____
_____ buzz w/mouthpce	_____ patterns	_____ chord changes	_____ Excerpts	
_____ tongue warm-up	_____ arpeggio	_____ play along	_____ New Tunes	
_____ breathing	_____ new scale	_____	_____ Memorization	
_____ long tones	_____ lip slurs	_____	_____ PLAY!	
_____ low slurs	_____ dbl/trpl tonguing	_____	_____	
_____ finger dexterity	_____ transposing	_____	_____	
	_____ sight reading	_____	_____	
	_____ finger drills	_____	_____	

Comments: _____

To Do Tomorrow: _____

Warm-up	Technique	_____ ornaments	Music	
_____ buzz lips (brass)	_____ scales	_____ transcriptions	_____ Long Term Song	Date _____ Time _____ Time _____ Recorded: _____
_____ buzz w/mouthpce	_____ patterns	_____ chord changes	_____ Excerpts	
_____ tongue warm-up	_____ arpeggio	_____ play along	_____ New Tunes	
_____ breathing	_____ new scale	_____	_____ Memorization	
_____ long tones	_____ lip slurs	_____	_____ PLAY!	
_____ low slurs	_____ dbl/trpl tonguing	_____	_____	
_____ finger dexterity	_____ transposing	_____	_____	
	_____ sight reading	_____	_____	
	_____ finger drills	_____	_____	

Comments: _____

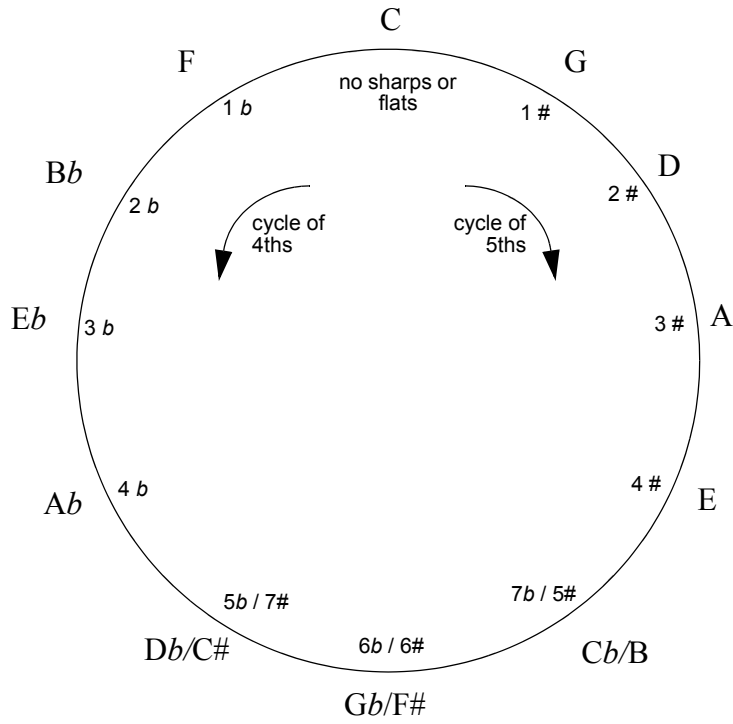
To Do Tomorrow: _____

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JH

Cycle of Fourths/ Fifths (Major)



CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE

A	A# Bb
B	
C	C# Db
D	D# Eb
E	
F	F# Gb
G	G# Ab
A	A# Bb
B	
C	C# Db
D	D# Eb
E	
F	F# Gb
G	G# Ab
A	A# Bb
B	

Important Terms

flat (b): lowers notes a half step.

sharp (#): raises notes a half step.

natural (♮): cancels the effect of a sharp or flat.

order of flats: BEADGCF

order of sharps: FCGDAEB

half step: the smallest interval in Western music. Two adjacent keys on a piano. Two adjacent frets on the same string for guitar.

whole step: two half steps.

natural half step: half steps without the use of accidentals. Occurs from E-F and B-C.

Note Lengths in 4/4

sixteenth note = 1/4 beat

eighth note = 1/2 beat

dotted eighth note = 3/4 beat

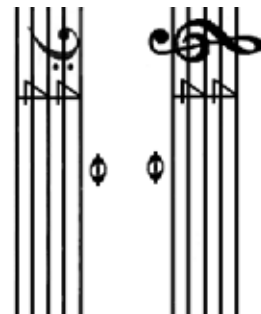
quarter note = 1 beat

dotted quarter note = 1 1/2 beats

half note = 2 beats

dotted half note = 3 beats

whole note = 4 beats



middle C is the C in the middle of your keyboard. Middle C as written in treble and bass clef looks like this:

Guitar Fretboard

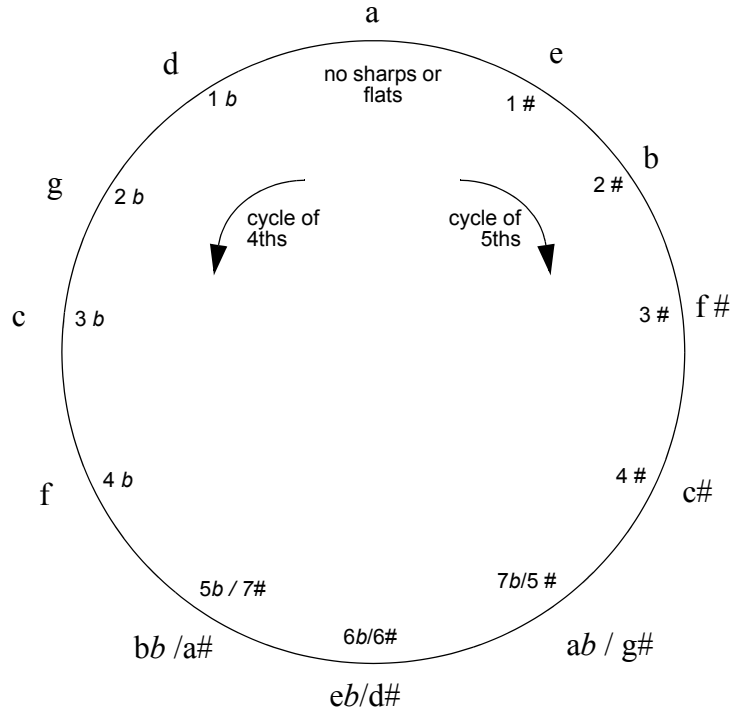
6	5	4	3	2	1	string #
E	A	D	G	B	E	string name
F	A#/Bb	D#/Eb	G#/Ab	C	F	
F#/Gb	B	E	A	C#/Db	F#/Gb	
G	C	F	A#/Bb	D	G	
G#/Ab	C#/Db	F#/Gb	B	D#/Eb	G#/Ab	
A	D	G	C	E	A	
A#/Bb	D#/Eb	G#/Ab	C#/Db	F	A#/Bb	
B	E	A	D	F#/Gb	B	
C	F	A#/Bb	D#/Eb	G	C	
C#/Db	F#/Gb	B	E	G#/Ab	C#/Db	
D	G	C	F	A	D	
D#/Eb	G#/Ab	C#/Db	F#/Gb	A#/Bb	D#/Eb	
E	A	D	G	B	E	

Guitar String Notes



6 = E 5 = A 4 = D 3 = G 2 = B 1 = E

Cycle of Fourths/Fifths (natural minor)



Note Lengths in 2/2

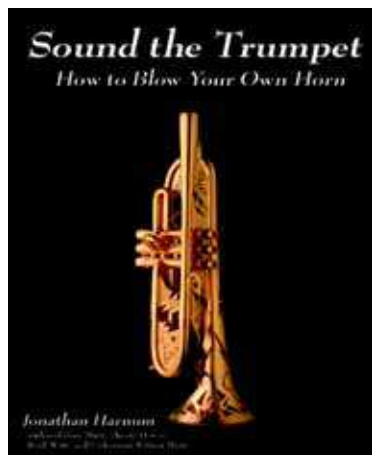
- sixteenth note = 1/8 beat
- eighth note = 1/4 beat
- dotted eighth note = 3/8 beat
- quarter note = 1/2 beat
- dotted quarter note = 3/4 beats
- half note = 1 beat
- dotted half note = 1 1/2 beats
- whole note = 2 beats

Tempo Markings

- Largo:** mm = 40-60
- Larghetto:** mm = 60-66
- Adagio:** mm = 66-76
- Andante:** mm = 76-108
- Moderato:** mm = 108-120
- Allegro:** mm = 120-168
- Presto:** mm = 168-200
- Prestissimo:** mm = 200-208



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- **Learn skills:** fingerings, buzzing, lip slurs, double and triple tonguing, flutter tongue, pedal tones, bends, shakes, the ever-popular horse whinny, and more!
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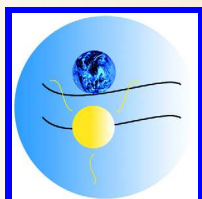
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